

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

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R 110912Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 798

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7785

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, TW, CH, ETRN

SUBJ: JAPAN-TAIWAN AIR LINK: THE LATEST CANARD

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

SUMMARY: YOMIURI REPORT JUNE 11 THAT LDP VP SHIINA AND KMT
SECY GENERAL CHANG WILL HOLD TALKS AFTER SATO FUNERAL ON
RESTORATION OF AIRLINK BETWEEN TAIWAN AND JAPAN SMELLS LIKE
VINTAGE RIGHT-WING LDP AND KMT PROPAGANDA TO SABOTAGE
NEGOTIATIONS WITH PEKING. AUTHORS MAY HOPE, SECONDARILY, TO
REGAIN SUPPORT FOR EARLY RESTORATION OF AIR TIE WITH TAIWAN.
END SUMMARY.

1. YOMIURI PROMINENTLY PLAYED STORY JUNE 11 THAT LDP VP
SHIINA AND TAIWAN'S KMT SECY GENERAL CHANG PAO-SHU WOULD
CONFER ON JAPAN-TAIWAN AIRLINK FOLLOWING JUNE 16
FUNERAL SERVICE FOR FORMER PM SATO.

REPORT TROTTED OUT FAMILIAR

AGRUMENT THAT FORMER FONMIN OHIRA'A LDP

MANDATE TO NEGOTIATE AIR AGREEMENT WITH PEKING REQUIRED

SIMULANEOUS PRESERVATION OF AIR LINK WITH TAIWAN.

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ARTICLE SUGGESTED THAT SINCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PEKING ON PEACE

FRIENDSHIP TREATY WERE STALLED OVER HEGEMONY ISSUE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO MAKE EFFORTS WITH TAIWANESE TO RESTORE LINK. SHIINA AND CHANGE, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, WOULD DO JUST THAT.

2. IN DIFFERENT CONTEXT, CHINA DIVDIR FUJITA TOLD US LATE LAST WEEK THAT PROSPECTS NOW FOR RENEWING AIR LINK WITH TAIWAN WERE NIL. GOJ WANTS TO CONSOLIDATE TIES WITH PEKING WITH PEACE FRIENDSHIP TREATY AND THEREAFTER, ON BASIS OF FULLY NORMALIZED RELATIONS WITH PEKING, SEE IF TAIWAN WISHES TO RESTORE THE AIR LINK THROUGH PRIVATE AGREEMENT. FUJITA EXPRESSED HOPE THAT TAIWANESE APPRECIATES FIRM POSITION GOJ HAS MAINTAINED DURING NEGOTIATIONS WITH PEKING ON SUBJECT OF TAIWAN AND THAT TAIPEI WILL ULTIMATELY DECIDE TO PROCEED WITH RESTORATION OF AIR TIE. HE NOTED THAT GOJ THUS FAR HAS NEGOTIATED DRAFT OF PFT SUCCESSFULLY EXPUNGING REFERENCES TO TAIWAN AS " PROVINCE OF PRC", LANGUAGE ON WHICH PEKING INSISTED EARLIER.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CHANCES WILL BE MANY AT FORMER PM SATO'S FUNERAL FOR TAIWAN'S REPS TO TALK WITH JAPANESE LEADERS ABOUT THE AIR TIE, THIS ARTICLE IN YOMIURI SEEMS TO US TO BE VINTAGE RIGHT WING LDP EFFORT TO SIMULTANEOUSLY FOUL AIR AND SABTAGE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PEKING AND PERHAPS AS SIDE BENEFIT REGAIN SOME SUPPORT FOR EARLY EFFORTS TO RESTORE THE AIR LINK WITH TAIWAN. SUCH MISCHIEVOUSNESS WILL ENRAGE PM MIKI AND LEAD CERTAINLY TO QUICK DISAVOWALS TO PEKING BY GOJ.
HODGSON

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